

## NEWS FROM OTHER TRIBES

### Warm Springs

BEND, Ore. (AP)— The U.S Bureau of Land Management has completed its plan to manage recreation on the Lower Deschutes River, which stretches 100 miles from Warm Springs to the Columbia River.

More than 4,000 copies of the plan and environmental impacts statement were mailed January 25 to public agencies that oversee the use of the river and to user groups involved in negotiations during the past four years.

"Under the circumstances, it's a good plan," said Jim Noteboom, a Bend lawyer who represented the Warm Springs tribes in the negotiations. "The Deschutes still may be overused, but this is a fair compromise of all the parties."

The plan seeks to protect the river from environmental damage and to limit the construction of new facilities such as boat ramps and campgrounds.

The ban includes tough new limits on jet boats, including a ban after three years on all power boats above Sherar's Falls.

It also seeks to reduce overcrowding on the river during summer weekends, setting "Peak use targets" for specific areas. Some of those targets suggest boat numbers should be reduced by as much as two-thirds.

If overcrowding persists, the plan calls for establishing a system of allocating boater permits to limit use of the river. However, groups involved in drafting the plan were unable to agree on how that system should work.

### Umatilla

A counselor on the Umatilla Indian Reservation thinks a solution to substance abuse lies in an emphasis on pride and tribal culture in the tribal communities.

"What we would like to do with culture is to make our children proud of where they came from," said Marguerite Allman, department director for Cay-Uma-Way education center.

"I believe Indian people have been branded for so long," Allman said. "Regardless of whether your family drinks or not, they still put you in the same melting pot."

Allman believes cultural pride can be a deterrent to drug use among tribal youth.

"We really feel that our value system we grew up with was a lot better than the value system our children grow up with," she said. "We need to retain our cultural values."

Allman is currently completing an application for the Healthy Nations Program, which includes 15 federal grants of \$150,000 each, and another \$1 million available after two years of success.

### 1990 Census Results: Native American Indians Are Among the Poorest of the Poor

Although three years have passed, 1990 Census statistics indicate that Native Americans are the poorest population group in the United States today, specifically the Pine Ridge Reservation in Shannon County, South Dakota. According to the Census, 63.1 percent of the population lives below the poverty level.

Zeibach County and Todd County, also in South Dakota, and homes of the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation and the Rosebud Reservation ranked seventh and tenth, respectively. On these two reservations, approximately 50 percent of the population lives in poverty.

There are eight counties in South Dakota considered to be among the poorest in the United States, and all are on or near Indian reservations. The majority of the people living in poverty are children and elderly. Many people employed with the tribes are hoping for a brighter tribal economy through business ventures such as gaming and construction projects. Other tribal officials believe the Census figures are misleading because of job opportunities that have recently surfaced on the reservations that weren't available when the Census was taken. But the fact is, many people living on the reservations are elderly, handicapped, or single parents living on fixed incomes which fall below the national average.

However, Mel Lone Hill, vice president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, predicts more growth and opportunity for tribal members in South Dakota. "I don't know why they are saying we are the poorest. We are looking at a promising future for our kids," he said.

### New Editorial Policy Letters From Our Readers

*Smoke Signals* is a publication of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon. We have recently adopted an Editorial Policy that encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Smoke Signals* as well as other tribal issues. However, all letters from readers must be received at the Newsletter Office no later than the 20th of each month, with the author's signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication.

Letters must be printed or typed, and cannot exceed 300 words. *Smoke Signals* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain libelous statements or personal attacks. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Smoke Signals*, tribal employees, or Tribal Council. Mail letters to: SMOKE SIGNALS, 9615 Grand Ronde Rd., Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 ATTN: Tracy Olson

## Smoke Signals

EDITOR  
TRACY OLSON

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Articles appearing in *Smoke Signals* are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Submissions of articles, poetry, short stories, artwork and photos are encouraged. *Smoke Signals* does not assume responsibility for unsolicited material and does not guarantee publication upon submission.

## Moving...Let us know

If you have recently moved or are planning on moving, let us know so you won't have to miss a single copy of your favorite newsletter. Just fill out this form with your new address and mail it back to *Smoke Signals* at 9615 Grand Ronde Rd., Grand Ronde, OR 97347

NEW

OLD

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